

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Applicants acknowledge allowance of claims 35-39.

Claims 1-3, 5-20, 22-31, 34 and 40 are rejected.

Base claims 1, 12 and 24 have been amended by incorporating claims 4, 21, and 32.

New claims 41 and 42, directed to a method of detecting low energy neutron and ionizing radiation, have been added. Support for new claims 41 and 42 can be found throughout the specification of the invention and particularly at p. 4, 2-15 and p. 8, 16-22. No new matter has been added.

New claims 43-46, directed to additives to the claimed π -conjugated material, have been added. Support for new claims 43-46 can be found at p. 10, 17-21. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10, 12-16, 19, 22 and 40 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Kishimoto (4,093,562) and claims 24-29 and 33-34 as anticipated by Friend (5,523,555). Applicants traverse the rejections.

The allowable subject matter of claims 4, 21 and 32 having been incorporated into base claims 1, 12 and 24, the rejection of base claims and claims dependent therefrom is deemed moot and Applicants request reconsideration and allowance.

Claim 40 recites a combination of electrodes and π -conjugated polymer rolled up along their length to form a generally cylindrical-shape structure. Contrary to Examiner's representation, Kishimoto does not disclose a similar structure. Rather FIG. 1 shows a granularly dispersed

polymeric composition prepared into a tube (col. 3, 60-68 and col. 4, 1-6). Furthermore, the electrodes of Kishimoto are positioned at the ends of the tube (cf. FIG. 1) rather than as an integral part of the cylindrical structure as claimed.

It is well settled that for a reference to anticipate an invention, the reference must disclose every aspect of the invention either expressly or inherently. As Applicants have shown above, such is not the case here. Therefore, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of Claim 40.

Rejection under 35 USC 103

Claims 6-7, 9, 11, 17-18, 20, 23 and 30 and 31 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Friend (5,523,555) in view of Heeger (5,54,323) and Kishimoto (4,093,562). Applicants traverse the rejection.

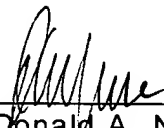
The allowable subject matter of claims 4, 21 and 32 having been incorporated into base claims 1, 12 and 24 the rejection of base claims and claims dependent therefrom is deemed moot and Applicants request reconsideration and allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants request entry of new claims 41-46. The rejection of claims 1-3, 5-20, 22-31, 33, 34 and 40 under 35 USC §102 and 30-31 under 35 USC §103 having been overcome, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Application No: 09/863,128

For Applicant: Doty